

Washington, DC -- U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) presented Kiefer Collingwood of Chenango Forks High School with the first place prize in this year's Artistic Discovery Congressional Art Competition in a ceremony this past weekend at the Pratt Institute at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute in Utica.

"I want to congratulate this year's winners and all of the students and teachers who participated in this year's competition," **Arcuri said**. "I am proud to sponsor the Congressional Art Competition which expands artistic opportunity for local students and gives them the opportunity to share their talent with the rest of the country."

Arcuri presented the following awards on Saturday, May 16th:

1st place: Kiefer Collingwood, Chenango Forks School District, "Junk Yard Truck"

- Collingwood received a \$400 scholarship to Pratt at Munson-William-Proctor (MWP), and a \$150 savings bond from the Congressman. Collingwood's picture will be sent to Washington, DC, to be displayed in the U.S. Capitol. Collingwood will also be invited to a reception in Washington along with winners from each other congressional district.

2nd place: Audra Ziobro, Homer Senior High School, "Untitled"

- Ziobro received a \$300 scholarship to Pratt at MWP, and a \$100 savings bond from the Congressman. .

3rd place: Jessica Pollack, Dolgeville Central School, "Untitled"

- Pollack received a \$200 scholarship to Pratt at MWP, and a \$50 savings bond from the Congressman. Pollack's piece will be on display in Arcuri's Washington, DC office

Honorable Mention: Kayleigh Astour, Whitesboro High School, “Candy Leopard Boots”

- Astour’s artwork will be on display in Arcuri’s Utica office.

All participants who were not place winners received \$100 scholarships to Pratt at MWP – if they choose to attend - and a U.S. House of Representatives pin from Arcuri.

Local art competitions have been held in each county in the 24th congressional district and county winners were displayed in the School of Art Gallery.

The Artistic Discovery art competition is part of a nationwide art competition for high school students, sponsored each year by the Congressional Art Caucus, of which Arcuri is a member, and coordinated by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in their districts. Beginning with the first competition in 1982, it has become a tradition to recognize and encourage artistic creativity in young artists.

###